The army crossed the place with difficulty. Our horses were harassed and worn out with hunger and thirst, for water was as scarce an forage. The men suffered very much.

14th, Moscow:

We arrived at Moscow in the evening.

1 /> th. *The fire of Moscow begins.*

18th. We are following the enemy, who have withdrawn beyond the Volga. We have found immense quantities of valuables in Moscow, which was a beautiful city. Russia will not recover from her loss in two hundred yeans. Without exaggeration it must amount to a thousand millions of francs,

£0th, (To the Emperor Alexander.) *Monsieur man Fr&re:* The beautiful and iplendid city of Moscow no longer exists. Rostopchtn has burnt it down. Four hundred incendiaries have been caught in the act; all declared they were starting fires by order of the Governor and of the Chief of Police; they were shot. The fire seems to have died out at last; three quarters of the houses have gone, a quarter remains, Such conduct *m* atrocious and aimless. Wan the object to deprive *m* of a few resources ? Well, those resources were in cellars that the fir© did not reach, Even then the destruction of one of the most beautiful cities in the world, the work of centuries, for so slight an object, ja Inconceivable. If I lupposed that such things were being done under the orders of Your Majesty, I should riot write this letter; but I hold it impossible that any one with the high principles of Your Majesty, such heart, such right feelings, could have authorised these excesses, unworthy as they are of a great sovereign and a great nation.